

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as present amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17-27, 29-32, 34, 36, and 38-40, are currently pending. Claims 1, 7, and 19-25 have been amended; and Claim 40 has been added by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,308,005 to Ando et al. (hereinafter “the ‘005 patent”); Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 12, 25-27, 29-32, 34, 36, 38, and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,833,865 to Fuller et al. (hereinafter “the ‘865 patent”) in view of the ‘005 patent, further in view of Official Notice; and Claims 14, 15, 17-22, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘865 and ‘005 patents, further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0041754 to Kikuchi et al. (hereinafter “the ‘754 application”).

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a method of compressing and recording data of image information as a plurality of video object units on a recording medium according to a decoding and reproducing unit, the method comprising: (1) performing compression of inputted image data; (2) generating additional information about the inputted image data; and (3) multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes the additional information generated in the generating step at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information of the inputted image data and immediately before a group of blocks that include compressed image information processed by compression encoding through the use of only image information in the decoding and reproducing unit, and recording the additional information block on the recording medium,

wherein the additional information that is multiplexed and recorded on the recording medium includes at least application information, recording time information, and camera information, and the application information includes a vendor name as a manufacturer of a product, and a product name. The changes to Claim 1 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Office Action asserts that the '865 patent discloses everything in Claim 1 with the exception of the multiplexing of the additional information at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information, and that the application information includes a vendor name as a manufacturer of a product, and a product name,² and relies on the '005 patent and Official Notice to remedy those deficiencies.

The '865 patent is directed to an integrated data and real-time metadata capture system, comprising: (1) a digital capture device producing a digital representation of one or more forms of media content; (2) a feature extraction engine configured to automatically extract metadata in real time from the digital content simultaneously with encoding of the content; (3) a storage device configured to store the encoded media content in the metadata; and (4) an output interface in communication with the storage device to generate output data while preserving a temporal relationship between a sequence of the metadata and additional content. As shown in Figure 1, the '865 patent also discloses a collateral data input unit storing metadata related to the device state, which can be formatted with the content data. Further, the '865 patent discloses that the device data information can include lens properties, enclosure values, f-stops, and audio gains. Further, the '865 patent discloses that the

¹ See, e.g., Figures 4A and 4B and the discussion related thereto in the specification.

² See page 5 of the outstanding Office Action.

metadata may be combined with the content data using the MPEG-7 format or in other formats such as Apple QuickTime.³

However, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '865 patent fails to disclose the step of multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes the additional information generated in the generating step at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information of the imported image data and immediately before a group of blocks that include compressed image information, as recited in amended Claim 1.

Further, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '865 patent fails to disclose that the additional information that is multiplexed and recorded on the information medium includes at least application information, the application information including a vendor name as a manufacturer of a product, and a product name, as recited in amended Claim 1.

The '005 patent is directed to an information recording method of recording a video file and a management file on an information storage medium, comprising the steps of storing video object units (VOBUs) in the video file, each of the video object units configured to store packs, each pack having a predetermined byte value and corresponding to data constituting the video data, at least one of the video object units having a lead VOBU pack as a first one of the packs. In particular, as shown in Figure 7, the '005 patent discloses that a video object includes a plurality of cells, and each cell includes a video object unit, and that each video object unit includes various packs, including a VOBU begin pack, one or more video packs, one or more audio packs, and one or more sub-picture packs. Further, as shown in Figures 23A-23H, the '005 patent discloses that the optical disk 1001 includes an audio and video data area 1009 that includes navigation data 2201, movie video recording objects 2202, and still picture video recording objects 2203. Further, as shown in Figure 23D, the

³ See '865 patent, column 6, lines 13-22.

'005 patent discloses that the navigation data 2201 includes text data manager 2215 and manufacturer information table 2216. However, regarding the manufacturer's information table 2216, Applicant notes that column 30 of the '005 patent does not indicate what type of information is included in that table. In fact, Applicant respectfully submits that the '005 patent is silent regarding what type of information is included in the manufacturer information table 2216. Further, Applicant notes that Figures 23A-23H of the '005 patent indicate that the navigation data 2201 is grouped together for the audio and video data area 1009, and is not included within the movie video recording objects 2202.

However, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '005 patent fails to disclose that the additional information includes at least application information, and the application information includes a vendor name as a manufacture of a product, and a product name, as required by Claim 1.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the '005 patent fails to disclose the step of multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes the additional information generated in the generating step at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information, as recited in amended Claim 1. In this regard, as shown in Figure 7, the '005 application discloses that each video object includes a plurality of cells which include a plurality of video object units, but does not disclose that **each video object unit** includes the additional information block required by amended Claim 1. Rather, as shown in Figures 23C and 23D, the '005 patent merely discloses that navigation data 2201 is separately recorded on the disk. The '005 patent does not disclose that, for each video object unit of a plurality of video object units, the additional information block is multiplexed and recorded in the position recited in Claim 1. Rather, as discussed above, the '005 patent discloses that the navigation data 2201, which includes the

text data manager 2215 and the manufacturer's information table 2216, is grouped together prior to the movie video recording objects 2202.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Official Notice that the additional information recited in Claim 1 includes at least application information and that the application information includes a vendor name and a product name. Applicant respectfully requests that the Office provide a prior art reference to this effect. Further, Applicant notes that the Office Action states that the product name and the vendor name are "well known in the art," but does not provide any evidence of this. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that, it is one thing for a product name and inventor name to be "well known in the art," but it is quite another thing for a vendor name and a model name to be multiplexed in an additional information block with image data in the manner recited in Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that it is pure speculation that the manufacturer's information table 2216 shown in Figure 23D of the '005 patent would include a product name and a vendor name, as asserted by the outstanding Office Action. As discussed above, the '005 patent does not disclose anything about the contents of the manufacturer's information table 2216, and the Examiner's assertion of what would be included in that table is pure speculation.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '865 patent, the '005 patent, and Official Notice are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes the additional information generated in the generating step at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information of the inputted image data and immediately before a group of blocks that include compressed image information processed by compression encoding, as recited in amended Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 1.

Independent Claims 7 and 25 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 1, and have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 1. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 7 and 25 (and all associated dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to Claims 7 and 25.

Independent Claim 19 is directed to a reproducing method, comprising: (1) reading compressed image information according to a decoding and reproducing unit from a recording medium, decompressing the compressed image information, and reproducibly outputting image information according to the decoding and reproducing unit, wherein the recording medium records inputted image data as a plurality of video object units in a data compression manner according to the decoding and reproducing unit, and records an additional information block, the additional information block obtained by multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes additional information generated by an additional information generation means at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information of the inputted image data and immediately before a group of blocks including compressed image information processed by compression encoding through the use of only image information in the decoding and reproducing unit and recording the additional information block on the recording medium, wherein the additional information that is multiplexed and recorded on the recording medium includes at least application information, recording time information, and camera information, and the application information includes a vendor name as a manufacturer of a product, and a product name; and (2) extracting the additional information contained in the decoding and reproducing unit and reproducibly outputting the additional information in synchronization with reproduction output of the image information according to the decoding and reproducing unit.

As discussed above, the combined teachings of the '865 and '005 patents fail to teach or suggest the multiplexing recited in Claim 19 and the content of the additional information recited in Claim 19.

The '754 application is directed to a recording/reproducing apparatus including a first recording/reproducing medium, a first recording/reproducing processing section configured to record information on or reproduce information from the first recording/reproducing medium, a second recording/reproducing processing section configured to record information on or reproduce information from a second recording/reproducing medium; a display signal output section configured to supply an external device within a reproduction signal from at least one of the first and second recording/reproducing processing sections; and a system control section configured to control operation of the apparatus.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the '754 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '005 and '865 patents, as discussed above. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that the '754 application fails to disclose the multiplexing and additional information recited in Claim 19. Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '005 patent, the '865 patent, and the '754 application are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the multiplexing recited in Claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claim 19 (and all associated dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to that claim.

Independent Claims 20-22 and 24 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 19, and have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 19. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of Claims 20-22 and 24 are rendered moot by the present amendment to those claims.

Amended Claim 23 is directed to a reproducing apparatus, comprising: (1) means for reading compressed image information according to a decoding and reproducing unit from a recording medium; (2) means for decompressing the compressed image information; and (3) means for reproducibly outputting image information according to the decoding and reproducing unit, wherein the recording medium records inputted image data as a plurality of video object units in a data compression manner according to the decoding and reproducing unit, and records an additional information block, the additional information block obtained by multiplexing, in each video object unit, an additional information block that includes additional information generated by an additional information generation means at a block position immediately after a pack that contains reproduction management information of the inputted image data and immediately before a group of blocks including compressed image information processed by compression encoding through the use of only image information in the decoding and reproducing unit and recording the additional information block on the recording medium, wherein the additional information that is multiplexed and recorded on the recording medium includes at least application information, recording time information, and camera information, and the application information includes a vendor name as a manufacturer of a product, and a product name; and wherein the apparatus extracts the additional information contained in the decoding and reproducing unit, reproduces the additional information in synchronization with reproduction output of the image information according to the decoding and reproducing unit, and uses the reproduced additional information to control image information according to the decoding and reproducing unit.

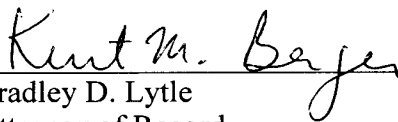
As discussed above, the '005 patent fails to disclose the multiplexing and additional information, including the vendor name and the product name recited in amended Claim 23. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claim 23 is rendered moot by the present amendment to that claim.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 7, and 19-25 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the cited references.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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